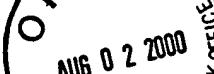


PATENT
1163-0270P

~~He Rose Again~~

IN THE U. S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yoshimi ISU et al
Appl. No.: 09/529,304 Group: 2721
Filed: April 12, 2000 Examiner: Unassigned
For: IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS, IMAGE CODING APPARATUS,
IMAGE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AND CODED BIT STREAM
CONVERTING APPARATUS



LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Date: August 2, 2000

Sir:

Subsequent to the filing of the above-identified application on April 12, 2000, attached hereto is an English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPEA 409) which should be made of record in the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By John A. Castellano, #35.094

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1163-0270P

(Rev. 04/19/2000)